

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A system, device, and method for managing connection establishment  
5 and related services in an optical communication system uses an optical  
service agent to manage the connection establishment and related services on  
behalf of a user. The optical service agent may negotiate various connection  
and connection-related services, model connections, reserve communication  
services, establish connections on behalf of the user, and aggregate multiple  
10 optical communication paths over a connection, to name but a few. The  
optical service agent may interact with an optical communication network  
and/or various peer users in order to obtain and reserve communication  
services.

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